Water Vending Machine, Cell kitchens etc. to serve quality food and beverages in Railway premises and on trains. Regular monitoring of catering services is being done by Zonal Railways and IRCTC. IRCTC is also engaging independent food audit agencies to streamline and upgrade such services. All good practices of catering business are being adopted to render quality catering services on Railways.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir, There are about 93 long distance Mail Express/ Superfast trains running without pantry car whose journey time is more than 24 hours each way and having 10 sleeper including AC sleeper coaches.

(e) Pantry car services on long distance trains are being introduced in a phased manner subject to availability of new pantry car.

Development of Buxar and Dumraon stations

†4108. SHRI BASHISTHA NARAIN SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of Government's plan for development of Buxar and Dumraon railway stations in Bihar;

(b) whether any memorandum was submitted to Minister of State for Railways during his recent inspection done at Buxar railway station;

(c) if so, the details of departmental action taken to fulfil the demands mentioned in the said memorandum, point-wise; and

(d) the details of the amenities to be further provided to Buxar railway station after upgrading it to 'A' level model station and by when?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU: (a) Work relating to improvement of station building by shifting the passenger reservation system/booking office, extension of platform no. 1,2 and 3 for 24 coaches and provision of Train Indication Board, Electronic Display Board, Coach Guidance Board and Tower Clock has been sanctioned for Buxar railway station. At Dumraon station the work relating to construction of new Foot Over bridge is in completion stage and extension of platform for 24 coaches has been completed recently.

(b) No memorandum signed by Hon'ble M.R was received.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi

(c) Does not arise.

(d) As per norms prescribed for A' Category Model Station, all passenger amenities have already been provided at Buxar railway station. Further, (i) improvement of platform surface of platform no 1,2 & 3 and (ii) provision of high mast tower in circulating area have been planned for sanction at Buxar railway station.

Date of completion does not arise.

Threats of planting explosives in trains

4109. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Railway officials have received threats of planing explosives and blasts in trains if death sentence to Afzal Guru is not commuted;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken to beef up security to rail passengers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. An anonymous letter addressed to the Station Manager, Delhi was received on 02-02-2007 threatening that Delhi Main Railway Station and other Railway Stations, Bus Stands, Air Ports, Vaishno Devi Mandir, Golden Temple Amritsar by planting bombs will be blasted if Afzal Guru is not released by Government of India.

(c) The following measures are being taken to improve security arrangements at important and vulnerable railway stations:—

- Number of trained sniffer dogs in the existing Railway Protection Force Dog Squads are being increased.
- Close Circuit Televisions, Hand Held Metal Detectors and Door Frame Metal Detectors are being provided at sensitive railway stations for anti-sabotage checks.
- To upgrade training centres to improve quality of training to Railway Protection Force personnel, Jagjivan Ram Railway Protection Force Academy, Lucknow has already been upgraded as Centralized Training Institute.